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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/618,523	07/11/2003	Kok-Meng Lee	62004-1621	9107
24504	7590 10/01/2004		EXAMINER	
THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP 100 GALLERIA PARKWAY, NW STE 1750			PARSLEY, DAVID J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ATLANTA,	ATLANTA, GA 30339-5948		3643	
			DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004	, ·

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
•	10/618,523	LEE, KOK-MENG			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
	David J Parsley	3643			
The MAILING DATE of this communication ap Period for Reply	opears on the cover sheet wit	th the correspondence address			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPITHE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a re  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statu Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	136(a). In no event, however, may a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty d will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTate, cause the application to become AB.	eply be timely filed  (30) days will be considered timely.  THS from the mailing date of this communication.  ANDONED (35 U.S.C. & 133).			
Status					
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11.	July 2003.				
2a) ☐ This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) ☐ Th	This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) This action is non-final.				
3) Since this application is in condition for allows closed in accordance with the practice under	•	• •			
Disposition of Claims					
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are pending in the application 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrays   s/are allowed.  5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed.  6) □ Claim(s) is/are rejected.  7) □ Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> are subject to restriction and/or	awn from consideration.				
Application Papers					
9) The specification is objected to by the Examin	ner.				
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ ac	cepted or b) objected to b	by the Examiner.			
Applicant may not request that any objection to the		• •			
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the corre					
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreig a) All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documer 2. Certified copies of the priority documer 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Burea * See the attached detailed Office action for a list	nts have been received.  Ints have been received in Apporting documents have been and the control of the contro	oplication No received in this National Stage			
Attachment(s)					
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 Paper No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)	ummary (PTO-413) )/Mail Date formal Patent Application (PTO-152) 			

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Art Unit: 3643

## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - Claims 1-15, drawn to device for grasping a live object, classified in class 452, subclass 183.
  - II. Claims 16-18, drawn to a method of grasping a live object, classified in class 452, subclass 179.
  - III. Claims 19-35 and 45, drawn to a device for receiving a live object, classified in class 452, subclass 53.
  - IV. Claims 36-42, drawn to a method of shackling live objects, classified in class 452, subclass 52.
  - V. Claims 43-44, drawn to a quick release system, classified in class 464, subclass 901.
- 2. Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced by another materially different product such as a shackle.

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Inventions I and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention III has separate utility such as transporting non-living objects. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Inventions I and V are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together and they both have different functions where the invention I functions to grasp, support and convey live objects and the invention V functions to connect and disconnect objects to each other.

Inventions III and IV are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product such as by a regular conveyor in proximity to a shackle line.

Inventions III and V are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together and they each have a different function

with invention III transporting live objects and invention V functions to connect and disconnect

objects to each other.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a

separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination

purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required

for Group I is not required for Group III, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is

proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required

for Group I is not required for Group V, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is

proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required

for Group III is not required for Group V, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is

proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a

separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for

examination purposes as indicated is proper.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an

election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR)

1.143).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J Parsley whose telephone number is (703) 306-0552. The examiner can normally be reached on 9hr compressed.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on (703) 308-2574. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Parsley
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3643

PETER M. POON SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Pet n Pm

1/23/04